【推しの子】
6
OSHI NO KO
the sixth
volume.
赤坂アカ × 横槍メンゴ
YOUNG JUMP COMICS

OSHI NO KO

【推しの子】

6

赤坂アカ × 横槍メンゴ

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★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・団体・事件などには、いっさい関係ありません。

Ripped & Compiled by Oak

CHARACTER

プロローグ 幼年期 人物紹介

【星野アイ】
HOSHINO AI
アイドルグループ"B小町"の絶対的センターとして活躍。

【斉藤壱護】
SAITO ICHIGO
アイの所属する芸能事務所・苺プロダクションの社長。

夫婦

所属事務所

【斉藤ミヤコ】
SAITO MIYAKO

【五反田泰志】
GOTANDA TAISHI
アイとアクアが出演した映画の監督。

【有馬かな】
ARIMA KANA
同映画の撮影現場で出会った10秒で泣ける天才子役。

双子

【星野愛久愛海】
HOSHINO AQUAMARINE
通称・アクア。

【星野瑠美衣】
HOSHINO RUBY
通称・ルビー。

転生

転生

ゴロー
GORO
地方都市で産婦人科医として勤務。元々のアイ推しだが、妊娠中の彼女をストーカーから守る犠牲となり死亡。

さりな
SARINA
ゴローが勤務していた病院の入院患者。難病により12歳で他界。双子は互いに正体に気付いていない。

思者

あらすじ

推しのアイドル・星野アイの"子"に転生し、前世の記憶を持ったまま"赤ちゃんライフ"を満喫する双子のアクアとルビー。アイは、妊娠・出産を隠して嘘を貫いたまま、芸能界のスターダムを駆け上がっていた。しかし、初のドーム公演を控えた20歳の誕生日、当日"とあるファンに殺害されてしまう…。そして、十数年の時が経ち、ルビーはアイのように"輝く"為、アクアは"復讐"の為、"芸能界"に飛び込む!!

OSHI NO KO

第五章

2.5次元舞台編

人物紹介

【鮫島アビ子】
SAMEJIMA ABIKO
原作『東京ブレイド』作者。

【吉祥寺頼子】
KICHIJOJI YORIKO
『今日は甘口で』作者。
アビ子の師匠。

【姫川大輝】
HIMEKAWA TAIKI
『劇団ララライ』看板役者。
主人公役で出演。

【鳴嶋メルト】
NARUSHIMA MELT
『ソニックステージ』所属。
「キザミ」役で出演。

【星野アクア】
HOSHINO AQUA
『苺プロ』所属。
「刀鬼」役で出演。

【有馬かな】
ARIMA KANA
『苺プロ』所属。
「つるぎ」役で出演。

【黒川あかね】
KUROKAWA AKANE
『劇団ララライ』エース。
「精姫」役で出演。

【雷田澄彰】
RAIDA SUMIAKI
イベント運営会社
マジックフロー代表。

……第五章は、大人気漫画「東京ブレイド」を原作とする2.5次元舞台編!!
アクアは、アイの過去を探る為に、出演を決めた。
順調に稽古が進む中、原作者のアビ子が見学に。
そこで突如、脚本を「全部直す」事をリクエスト。
自身のキャラを変えられたと感じ、怒り心頭に。
その後、脚本家GOAと密に打合を行い、作り直した脚本にはご満悦の様子。
しかし、それは役者の演技に全投げのキラーパス脚本だった。そして、感情演技を求められたアクアはトラウマに苛まれ倒れてしまい!?

【推しの子】

AKA AKASAKA x
MENGO YOKOYARI

CHAPTER 51
INQUIRY

...I'M FINE.

JUST A LITTLE DIZZY.

CAN I GET SOME REST UNTIL I'VE CALMED DOWN?

AQUA?!

Translated by Felicia Sumali
Lettered by YKS Services, LLC
Edited by Jordan Reynolds
MEDIA DO Co. Ltd. / YKS Services LLC / SKY Japan, INC.

Sign: Kitchenette

給湯室

I WONDER IF AQUA-KUN IS OKAY.

HE'S NOT PRODUCER RAIDA.

DON'T CONFUSE HIM WITH RAIDA, THE PRODUCER.

FIDGET

IS IT ANEMIA?

OR A HANG-OVER?

OKAY.

YOU'RE HIS GIRL-FRIEND. YOU SHOULD BE BY HIS SIDE.

...

HOW CON-VENIENT.

HERE, HAVE SOME WATER...

THANKS.

HE'S SWEAT-ING...

IS IT A PANIC ATTACK?

...AND LIGHT-HEADED.

I'LL CALL YOUR FAMILY SO THEY CAN PICK YOU U—

NO, DON'T!

YOU LOOK PALE.

YOU MAY WANT TO LIE DOWN.

I DON'T WANT RUBY...

...TO KNOW ABOUT THIS.

...?

I DON'T WANT TO REMIND HER OF UNNECES-SARY THINGS.

SHE'S MOVED ON...

...ALREADY.

IN THAT CASE...

BUT SOMEONE NEEDS TO PICK YOU UP...

MAN, I'M NOT YOUR PAPA, YOU KNOW?

GOOD GRIEF.

UM,

ARE YOU HIS *GIRL-FRIEND* OR SOME-THING?

...

FOR REAL...?!

コクン
NOD

HMM, SO HE DOES THINGS BEHIND MY BACK, EH?

I THOUGHT FOR SURE...

I'M SORRY I CAME UNINVITED.

IT'S OKAY.

I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS HIS SITUATION, AFTER ALL.

BESIDES, THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME.

HAS THIS HAPPENED BEFORE?

...

WELL, YOU'RE HIS GIRLFRIEND. I SUPPOSE IT'S OKAY FOR ME TO TELL YOU.

...IN A TERRIBLE INCIDENT A LONG TIME AGO.

HE WAS INVOLVED...

LIKE HAVING A FLASH-BACK FOR PSYCHOLOG-ICAL TRAUMA?

PTSD...?

SOMETIMES, WHEN HE REMEMBERS HIS PAST, THIS HAPPENS.

SO HE PRETENDED THAT HE HAD COM-PLETELY RECOV-ERED.

BUT HE DIDN'T WANT TO WORRY HIS FAMILY TOO MUCH,

HE RECEIVED COUNSELING FOR A LONG TIME,

YEP.

OH, WELL. I DON'T THINK HE CAN EVER FORGET IT.

EVEN I'M STILL DRAGGING IT A LITTLE.

ANYWAY, I'LL GET BACK TO WORK.

WATCH HIM FOR ME, WILL YA?

I COULD NEVER FORGET THE RUSTY METAL SMELL OF HER BLOOD...

...THAT PIERCED MY NOSE.

I CAN STILL FEEL IT EVEN NOW.

AND THAT FEELING OF HER HANDS GRADUALLY GETTING COLD...

HAD YOU RISKED YOUR LIFE TO PROTECT HER...

HAD YOU BEEN MORE CAREFUL...

Al...

AI?

BOTH SIBLINGS HAVE A STRONG ATTACHMENT TO AI.

AND HIS SISTER, WHO'S ALSO AN IDOL, REVIVED AI'S PAST GROUP, B-KOMACHI.

SHE BELONGED TO THE SAME AGENCY AS AQUA-KUN,

THAT'S THE IDOL AQUA-KUN ADMIRED... SHE DIED 14 YEARS AGO.

AI'S LAST NAME HAS NEVER BEEN ANNOUNCED.

THE REASON WHY BOTH SIBLINGS USED THE SURNAME HOSHINO.

A FOSTER PARENT SYSTEM.

THE NAME OF THE STRAWBERRY PRODUCTIONS REPRESENTATIVE WHO LIVES WITH THEM IS MIYAKO SAITO.

THEIR REAL FATHER.

POSSIBILITY OF AN ACCOMPLICE.

AQUA HOSHINO WAS INVOLVED IN AN INCIDENT WHEN HE WAS LITTLE.

PSYCHOLOGICAL TRAUMA.

AI'S MURDER CASE.

COUNSELING.

AI ACTUALLY HAD A SECRET CHILD.

SOME-THING LIKE THAT.

A—

AI...

AKANE.

WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

SOMETHING THAT, IF IT WERE TRUE,

WOULD BE SO UNBE-LIEVABLY TRAGIC...

I JUST...

...IMAGINED SOME-THING SCARY.

YOU'D FEEL LIKE YOU WERE ALL ALONE...

...BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT IT.

NO MATTER WHAT HAP-PENS, I'LL ALWAYS BE YOUR ALLY.

WE'LL EMBRACE...

...THOSE PAINFUL THINGS TOGETHER.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

NOTHING.

IT'S JUST A STORY I CAME UP WITH.

CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHAPTER 52
BOYFRIEND GIRLFRIEND

Translated by Felicia Sumali
Lettered by YKS Services, LLC
Edited by Jordan Reynolds
MEDIA DO Co. Ltd. / YKS Services LLC / SKY Japan, INC.

じゃTA-DAHん

DO YOU DO THIS REGULARLY?

YOU'RE SKILLFUL AND QUICK.

TEE HEE.

IT'S DELI-CIOUS!

EATING DELICIOUS FOOD IS HAPPINESS ON ITS OWN, YOU KNOW?

SHE'S A KEEPER, HON!

AQUA-KUN!

AND I COOK AT HOME ONCE IN A WHILE.

I'M TAKING A COOKING CLASS WITH MY MOM,

I DON'T HAVE THE APPETITE...

BLOW

BLOW

ARE YOU NOT GOING TO EAT?

BLUSH

DON'T TREAT ME LIKE A BABY.

HERE. SAY, "AAAH."

I'LL HELP YOU, AQUA-KUN.

MUNCH

MUNCH

...

I WANT TO SUPPORT YOU, TOO.

It's good...

JUST LIKE YOU SAVED ME ONCE,

HE SHOULD'VE JUST FOCUSED ON IT FROM THE BEGINNING.

WELL, IF HE ENDED UP BEING AN ACTOR LIKE THIS,

SO...

AQUA-KUN IS YOUR APPREN-TICE, HUH?

I DON'T MIND,

I WANT TO SEE IT!

PLEASE SHOW ME THE VIDEOS HE STARRED IN!

THEY'RE JUST DELU-SIONS OF MY DARK PAST.

I SUP-POSE

DON'T SHOW HER!

DO YOU HAVE ANY VIDEOS OF AQUA'S ACTING?

BUT AQUA...

THOSE WORKS WERE TERRI-BLE.

I THOUGHT I WAS TALENTED, BUT I WAS WRONG.

YAY!

OH!

BUT WATCH IT WHEN I'M NOT AROUND.

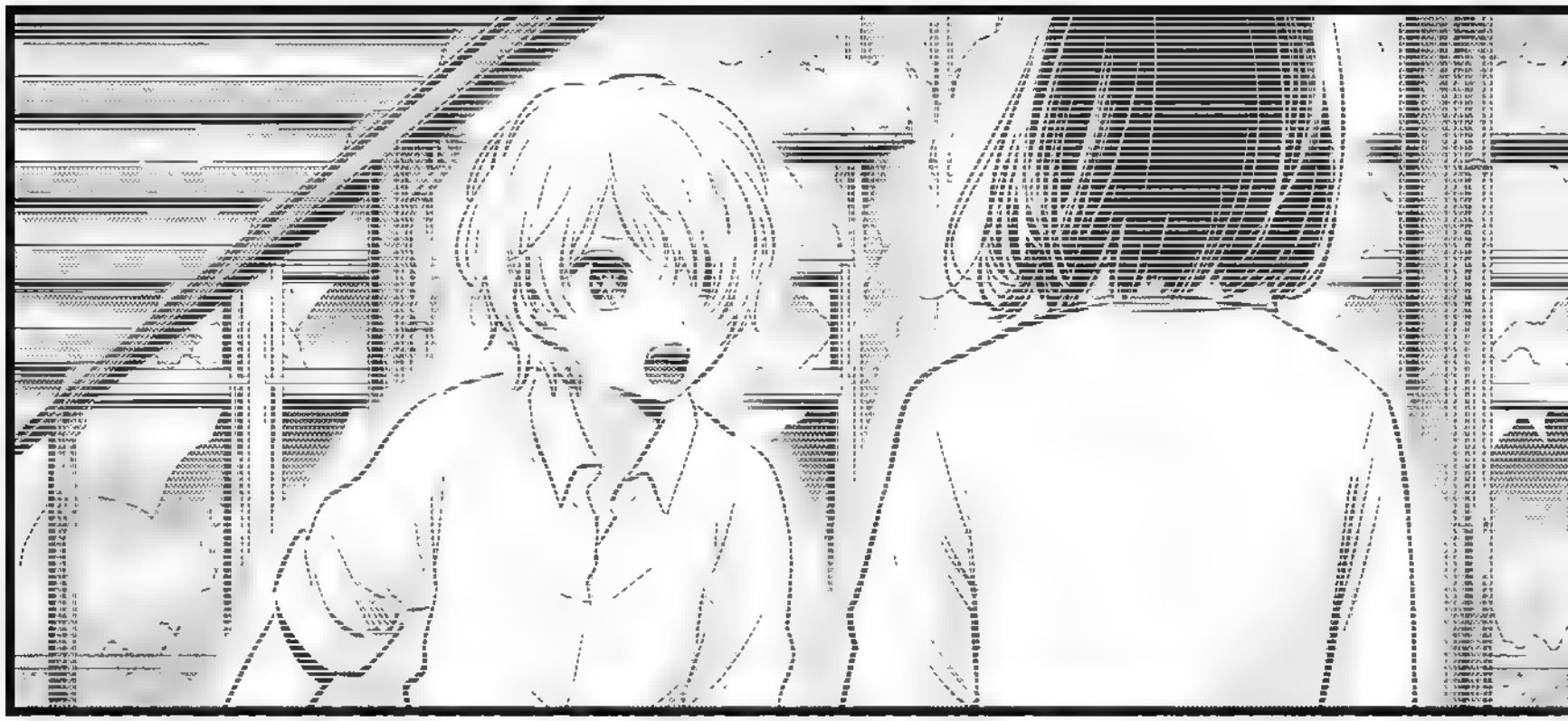
I DON'T MIND, EITHER.

呪

NOROI NO

WHAT MADE HIM CHANGE HIS MIND?

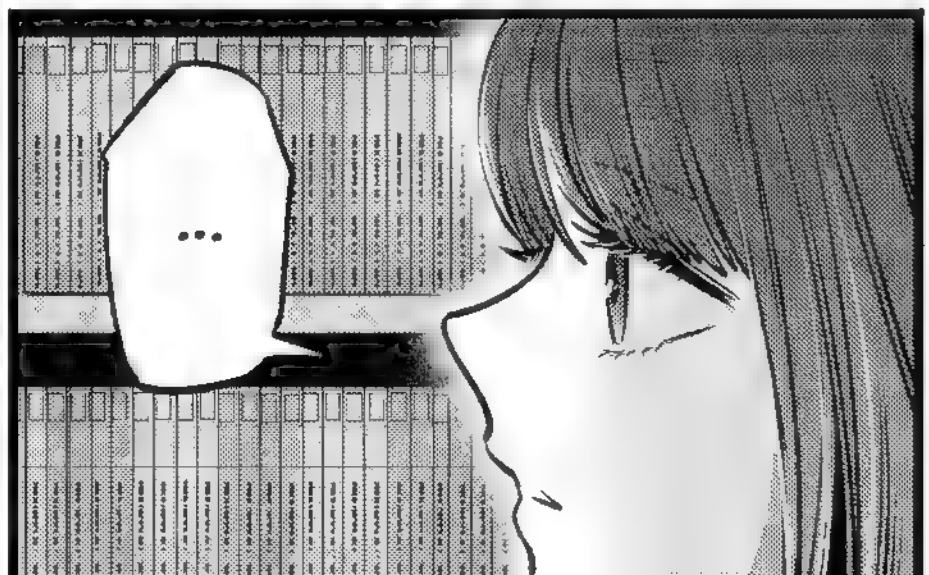
Video: Curse



HE WAS A GRADE SCHOOLER THEN.
HE'S SOOO CUTE!
IS THAT AQUA-KUN?

I SEE.

HE DOESN'T REALLY WANT TO SHOW THIS TO PEOPLE, THOUGH.


...

I UNDER-STAND HIS FEELINGS A LITTLE.

I THINK...

HIS PERFOR-MANCE...

...WAS ALL PREPARED, WASN'T IT?

HOW?

HE PLANNED ALL HIS PERFOR-MANCES IN ADVANCE.

...BECAUSE HE DIDN'T SHOW ANY EMOTIONS.

HE HAD POOR REFLEXES...

WHEN WE SHOT THIS SCENE,

HE COL-LAPSED LIKE HE DID TODAY.

HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE GOOD AT EXPRESSING HIS EMOTIONS,

AND SOME-TIMES, THIS HAPPENS WHEN HE'S TRYING TO REMEMBER HIS PAST EXPERIENCES.

HOWEVER, HE'S A SKILLFUL GUY.

HE CAN ACT FLAW-LESSLY...

...BY LOOKING AT OTHER PEOPLE'S PERFORMANCE AND CONNECT-ING IT TO HIM-SELF.

I THINK THAT'S ONE OF HIS TALENTS,

BUT HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE PLEASED BY IT.

INSTEAD, HE ALWAYS COM-PLAINS ABOUT NOT HAVING TALENT.

AQUA-KUN, WHY ARE YOU DOING THEATER WORK?

DO YOU WANT TO BE A STAR?

ARE YOU DOING IT FOR MONEY?

BECAUSE YOU WANT TO BE SOMEONE SPECIAL?

YES, IT DOES. IT'S IMPORTANT.

IT DOESN'T MATTER, DOES IT?

OF COURSE YOU ARE.

I'M DOING IT BECAUSE IT'S FUN.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, AKANE?

WELL, EVEN IF I TOLD YOU THE REASON WHY I BECAME AN ACTOR,

YOU WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND.

NOT THAT I'M GOING TO TELL YOU ANYWAY.

THERE YOU GO AGAIN.

YOU ALWAYS SAY THAT COMMUNICAT-ING WITH PEOPLE IS IMPORTANT,

BUT YOU'RE BEING SECRETIVE YOURSELF.

CONTRADIC-TORY, AREN'T YOU?

WELL, THEN.

WHAT IF...

...MY GOAL WAS TO KILL SOMEONE?

THIS PERSON IS PRETTY HIGH UP IN THE ENTER-TAINMENT WORLD,

SO I NEED TO KEEP CLIMBING IN ORDER TO KILL THEM.

WHAT WOULD YOU DO THEN?

I'D KILL THEM WITH YOU.

I'M SURE YOU HAVE A REASON FOR IT.

WELL, THIS PERSON IS SOMEONE *YOU* WANT TO KILL.

DON'T SAY THAT LIGHTLY.

I'D STILL ACCEPT YOU FOR WHO YOU ARE.

EVEN IF YOU WERE TRULY EVIL,

THIS ISN'T ABOUT RIGHT OR WRONG.

EVEN THOUGH OUR RELATIONSHIP IS ONLY FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES.

WHEN I BECAME YOUR GIRLFRIEND, I WAS READY FOR THE WORST, YOU KNOW?

I'D BE HAPPY TO CARRY IT WITH YOU.

THAT SAID, IF YOU'RE GOING TO CARRY THIS SIN,

YOU'RE NOT DECENT, AFTER ALL.

DID YOU THINK I WAS DECENT?

HOWEVER, I WANT YOU TO DO YOUR JOB AS MY BOY-FRIEND, TOO.

JOB?

YES.

I WANT TO WIN AGAINST KANA ARIMA.

I DON'T WANT TO LOSE TO THEM NO MATTER WHAT.

UNFORTU-NATELY, THE HIMEKAWA-ARIMA PAIR IS JUST TOO MUCH...

...FOR ME ALONE.

ARE YOU GOING TO LET ME DIE WITHOUT DOING ANY-THING...

IF I LOST, I'D BE SO *FRUSTRAT-ED* THAT I MIGHT EVEN *DIE*.

...EVEN THOUGH YOU'RE MY BOY-FRIEND?

...

NOT LET-TING HIS GIRLFRIEND DIE...

YOU'RE RIGHT.

...IS A BOY-FRIEND'S JOB.

HOW TO BEAT HIME-KAWA AND ARIMA?

I READ THE SCRIPT.

IT'S PRETTY EDGY CONSIDERING THE SCALE,

AND THE STRUCTURE IS QUITE CHALLENGING,

YEAH, AND IF POSSIBLE, I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH EMOTIONAL ACTING.

BUT THE *INTENTION* OF THE SCRIPTWRITER COULDN'T BE MORE CLEAR.

I TOLD YOU...

...TO BE AN ACTOR WHO COULD GIVE AN IDEAL PERFOR-MANCE...

...INSTEAD OF A GREAT ONE, DIDN'T I?

WHAT'S YOUR TAKE ON...

BASED ON THAT,

...THE DI-RECTOR'S REQUESTS...

...AND THE SCRIPT-WRITER'S INTEN-TIONS?

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE IDEAL PER-FORMANCE FOR *THIS* PLAY?

Script: Tokyo Blade

INTENSE EMOTIONAL ACTING.

SO YOU HAVE NO CHOICE, THEN.

EMOTIONAL ACTING IT IS.

STARTING TOMORROW, COME HERE AFTER YOU'RE DONE WITH REHEARSALS.

I'LL BEAT YOU INTO SHAPE FROM SCRATCH.

【推しの子】

Translated by Felicia Sumali
Lettered by YKS Services, LLC
Edited by Jordan Reynolds
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NO, WE WON'T...

IT'S OKAY! WE'LL BE FINE!

I'M HIS SISTER.

I'M WORRIED ABOUT HIM. IS HE DOING WELL?

ALL I CAN PICTURE IS HIM BEING ALL ALONE AGAIN!

THIS IS LIKE A *CLASS VISIT* SO TO SPEAK!

IT'S MY DUTY AS HIS FAMILY TO OBSERVE HIM!

STARE

HM?

OH!

BUT MY AGENCY IS VERY STRICT!

IF THEY FIND OUT, MY MANAGER WILL YELL AT ME!

ONE OF THE HAM ACTORS!

YOU'RE THE GUY WHO STARRED IN SWEET TODAY...

YES, I AM.

OH, YOU'RE AQUA'S SISTER?

THANK YOU FOR TAKING GOOD CARE OF MY BROTHER.

I'M RUBY HOSHINO.

YUP!

DO YOU KNOW ME?

WHAT?!

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR HIM, HE LEFT ALREADY.

Sign: Studio B

Bスタジオ

I SEE.

I'M JUST STAYING BEHIND TO PRACTICE MORE.

WE'RE ALSO DONE REHEARSING FOR THE DAY.

HMM...

WHY IS HE ALWAYS HOME LATE, THEN? WHAT HAS HE BEEN UP TO?

KURO-KAWA...?

COME TO THINK OF IT, HE'S BEEN GOING HOME WITH KURO-KAWA.

I THOUGHT FOR SURE...

AQUA'S BEEN COMING HOME AT DIFFERENT TIMES EVERY DAY.

I'LL CALL HIM AND ASK HIM DIRECTLY!

RUBY...

DON'T BE INSENSI-TIVE.

JUST LEAVE THEM ALONE.

INSENSI-TIVE? WHY?

HE LEAVES AFTER THE REHEARSAL WITH HIS BEAUTIFUL GIRLFRIEND,

AND HE'S NOT HOME UNTIL LATE AT NIGHT.

THERE'S ONLY *ONE ANSWER* TO THAT, RIGHT?

?

HUH? I DON'T GET IT.

SO WHAT IS MY BROTHER UP TO?

UM...

WELL...

THEY MUST BE DOING *NAUGHTY* THINGS, RIGHT?

NAUGHTY THINGS?!

I MEAN, HE'S A HIGH SCHOOLER WITH A HOT GIRLFRIEND. WHO COULD STOP HIM?

THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULD LEAVE THEM ALONE.

NO WAY...

WELL, HE COULD BE MORE ENERGETIC THAN HE LOOKS.

IT'S BEEN A FEW DAYS, YOU KNOW?!

BUT... *EVERY* NIGHT?!

...

HE WOULDN'T DO THINGS THAT MIGHT CAUSE...

...A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL TO GET PREGNANT.

AQUA WOULD NEVER DO THAT.

IF HE DID,

I'D SCORN HIM FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.

RUBY?

DON'T WORRY.

I BELIEVE IN HIM.

HE'S BEEN SECRETIVE, ANYWAY.

I'M SORRY!

MAY I USE THE RESTROOM, PLEASE?

OH! I'M GOING, TOO...

OF COURSE SHE'D GET MIXED FEELINGS IF SOMEONE TALKS ABOUT HER BROTHER DOING THAT.

HEY...

ARE YOU WAITING FOR SOME-ONE?

CUTE? NO, I...

GIRL, YOU'RE CUTE.

SO YOU'RE AN ACTRESS?

OH, NO...

THAT'S NOT IT...

THEY'RE MY SENIORS.

LIKE NONON AND KUREHA UENO.

I HAVE A LOT OF FRIENDS WORKING FOR THEM, TOO.

WHAT? CANON FIRE? THAT'S FUNNY.

TMP

CANON FIRE.

WHAT AGENCY ARE YOU ASSOCIATED WITH?

HERE'S MY LINE.

WELL, WE MIGHT AS WELL ALL HANG OUT NEXT TIME.

WELL...

HMM...

OH...

KAMOSHIDA-SAAAN! THE DIRECTOR IS CALLING.

IT'S URGENT!

KANEDA-SAN IS SCARY WHEN HE'S ANGRY, SO YOU'D BETTER HURRY!

SIGH

WHAT? FOR REAL?

GIMME A SEC...

PHEW

NEXT TIME, OKAY?

WHAT THE HELL? WE'RE DONE REHEARSING TODAY, RIGHT?

WELL, I LIED.

IF YOU LAY A FINGER ON HER, YOU'LL BE IN TROU-BLE.

SHE'S THE FRIEND OF AQUA'S SISTER.

...

IT'S IMPORTANT.

YOU INTERRUPTED ME FOR THAT REASON?

WHAT'S THAT?

...WHO MIGHT INTERFERE WITH OUR WORK.

BUT YOU MAY WANT TO STAY AWAY FROM THOSE...

I'M A PLAYBOY, TOO,

SO I DON'T MIND YOU FLIRTING WITH GIRLS,

WE'RE PROFESSIONALS, SO JUST IN CASE...

WE DON'T KNOW THAT.

THAT'D NEVER HAPPEN!

SCARY!

PROFES-SIONALS?

YOU CAN'T EVEN ACT, FOR PETE'S SAKE.

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH BY SAYING THAT WORD.

YOU'RE JUST A FLIRTY MODEL...

...WHO DOES TV DRAMAS AS A SIDE JOB...

...AND GOT THIS GIG THROUGH YOUR CONNEC-TIONS.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE THE WORST ACTOR HERE, RIGHT?

YOU'RE RUINING THE QUALITY OF THIS PLAY.

I MAY NOT BE PERFECT, BUT I'M HERE BECAUSE OF MY ACHIEVEMENTS.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

SOMEONE LIKE YOU WHO DOESN'T HAVE SKILLS IS TRYING TO LECTURE ME? LAME.

IF YOU WERE HIMEKAWA, I MIGHT'VE LISTENED TO YOU, BUT YOU'RE NOT.

YOU DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO ACT ALL HIGH AND MIGHTY.

AAH...

SHE'S GOT BIG BOOBS, TOO.

WHAT A SHAME.

"YOU'RE RUINING THE QUALITY OF THIS PLAY."

"YOU KNOW YOU'RE THE WORST ACTOR HERE, RIGHT?"

YOU DON'T NEED...

...TO TELL ME.

I'VE KNOWN THAT SINCE THAT DAY...

...I ACTED WITH HIM.

Sign: Strawberry Productions Inc.
Saito

(株)苺プロ
斉藤

HE SAID HE WAS AQUA'S FRIEND, SO I GAVE HIM MY LINE.

HE INVITED US TO DINNER NEXT TIME.

WHOA...

HUH?

IS THAT BAD?

OBVIOUSLY,

I RESPECT THEM AS PEOPLE AND PERFORMERS.

THERE ARE A LOT OF ACTORS WITH NOBLE CHARACTERS OUT THERE.

IT'S SOMETHING THAT GOES WITHOUT MENTIONING, BUT...

IN GENERAL, 2.5D ACTORS WHO ASK FOR A GIRL'S CONTACT INFORMATION OUT OF THE BLUE LIKE THAT ARE A BIG NO-NO!

THEY'RE MOST LIKELY PLAYBOYS!

JUST IGNORE HIS MESSAGE IF HE ASKS YOU TO HANG OUT WITH HIM!

GIMME YOUR PHONE! I'LL BLOCK HIM RIGHT AWAY!

WH-

WHAAAT?!

Translated by Felicia Sumali
Lettered by YKS Services, LLC
Edited by Jordan Reynolds
MEDIA DO Co. Ltd. / YKS Services LLC / SKY-Japan, INC.

【推しの子】 AKA AKASAKA x MENGO YOKOYARI

...

CHAPTER 54
.....
AXIS OF A CONFLICT

WHAT ARE YOU GLARING AT?

THE ONLY TIME YOUR *SLEEPY EYES* LOOK *SHARP* IS WHEN YOU'RE STARING AT ME.

LIAR.

I'M NOT GLARING.

FWIP

"WHO DO YOU THINK I AM? I'M A *GENIUS CHILD ACTOR!*"

YOU JUST FEEL THAT WAY BECAUSE YOU THINK YOU'RE SPECIAL.

THIS IS HOW I LOOK AT EVERYONE.

YOU SURELY HATE ME.

YOU HATE ME SO MUCH THAT YOU CAN'T HELP SAYING THOSE THINGS.

RUMMAGE

RUMMAGE

OH, DEAR. MY, MY, MY.

YOUR TONGUE IS PRETTY SHARP, EH?

SHAMEFULLY CLINGING TO YOUR PAST GLORY LIKE THAT...

ARE YOU EVEN TRYING TO IMPROVE?

AKANE KUROKAWA-CHAN?

AM I RIGHT,

演劇の時代

児童劇団の

Book: The Era of Theater, Special Feature - World of Children Troupe

!

WHAT'S THAT?

THAT'S ...!

WELL, I JUST HAPPENED TO HEAR THAT...

...THE FAMOUS GENIUS CHILD ACTOR, AKANE KUROKAWA...

...WAS *INSPIRED BY A CERTAIN ACTOR* TO START ACTING.

I WAS WONDERING WHAT KIND OF PERSON SUCH A GREAT ACTOR WOULD LONG FOR...?

SST

STOP!!

WHERE DID YOU GET THAT BOOK?!

I HEARD KUROSAWA-SAN DID AN INTERVIEW WHEN SHE PERFORMED ON STAGE FOR THE FIRST TIME,

SO I ORDERED THE BACK ISSUE THAT FEATURED IT,

AND...

HUH?!

WHAAAT?!

AKANE-CHAN, DID YOU START ACTING BECAUSE OF ME?!

THE PERSON SHE ADORED WAS ME?!

有馬かなにあこがれて

黒、あかねちゃん

-Book: I adore Kana Arima Akane Kurokawa-chan

IT'S A **ONE-SIDED LOVE** FOR YA!

BUT I'M SORRY, **I DON'T LIKE YOU AT ALL!**

YOU HAVE NO MERCY, EH?

IF YOU LIKE ME THAT MUCH, YOU SHOULD JUST SAY SO.

NOOO WAAAY!

I'M SURE IT'S SOME-ONE FROM LALA LAI!!

WHO TOLD HER THAT?!

WHO?!

I KNEW YOU ALWAYS LOOKED AT HER AS YOUR RIVAL, BUT I DIDN'T THINK IT WOULD BE *THIS COMPLICATED...*

YOU ALWAYS TURN ON HER.

IT'S NOT LIKE THAT AT ALL!

HIMEKAWA-SAN...

SORRY.

WHEN I SAW HER, I LOOKED UP TO HER AND JOINED A CHILDREN'S ACTING TROUPE.

WE WERE THE SAME AGE, BUT SHE APPEARED ON TV AND BECAME POPULAR.

I MEAN, I DID ADORE HER IN THE PAST.

SHE'S ARRO-GANT, RUDE,

AND SHE'S ALWAYS MAKING FUN OF PEOPLE!

Look, guys!

HA HA

BUT JUST LOOK AT HER!

THERE'S A SCARY FAN SLIPPING INTO THE REHEARSAL VENUE!

HEY, STAFF!

Help meee!

AND POSING AS A FAMOUS YOUTUBER TO MAKE MONEY.

SHE'S PRETENDING TO BE MULTI-TALENTED BY BECOMING AN IDOL,

Staaaff!

FAN?!

I'M PART OF THE PLAY!

DON'T BOTHER TRYING TO COMPETE WITH HER, AKANE.

YOU CAN NEVER WIN. YOU'RE TOO EARNEST.

NOW THAT'S A COUNTER-ATTACK.

ARIMA IS GOOD AT ARGUING, AFTER ALL.

SPEAK TO YOURSELF! YOUR MAS-TERPIECE IS A REALITY DATING SHOW!

WHO'S PRETEND-ING TO BE MULTI-TALENTED NOW?!

OH! SHE'S SURPRIS-INGLY HURT.

SHE GOT A LITTLE CARRIED AWAY THERE.

WHAT'S SO GOOD ABOUT SOMEONE WHOSE MAS-TERPIECE IS BELL PEPPER EXERCISES?!

SPIT

COUGH

7" DRAG

7" DRAG

SORRY, I'LL TAKE THIS ONE.

OKAY.

I'LL HANDLE HER.

FORGET HER TONGUE! HER WHOLE CHARACTER IS NASTY!

AND SHE WAS EVEN WORSE IN THE PAST!

WELL, ARIMA'S KNOWN FOR HAVING A SHARP TONGUE.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH HER?!

AW, JEEZ! I'M SO PISSED!

NO, THAT'S...

SHE WAS NASTY, WASN'T SHE?!

LET'S BE ALLIES, THEN!

I ACTED WITH HER ONCE WHEN WE WERE LITTLE.

RIGHT?!
COME TO THINK OF IT, I DID THINK OF KILLING HER.

BACK THEN, I ALSO...

AAH... THAT FELT GOOD!

DID YOU SEE HER FACE?

SHE WAS TOTALLY **FRUSTRAT-ED!**

YOU REALLY ARE NASTY, HUH?

IF I KNEW THAT YOU'D MISUSE THE BOOK LIKE THIS, I WOULDN'T HAVE TOLD YOU ABOUT IT.

WHY DO YOU ALWAYS PICK A QUARREL WITH KUROKAWA?

THEY'RE ONLY DATING FOR BUSINESS PURPOSES!

DON'T YOU BELONG TO THE SAME AGENCY AS AQUA? SHE'S HIS ***GIRL-FRIEND***, FOR PETE'S SAKE!

SHOULDN'T YOU GET ALONG WITH HER?

BUT FOR SOME REASON, EVERY TIME WE ACTED TOGETHER, WE'D FIGHT.

THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME I'VE CO-STARRED WITH AKANE,

BUT WE'RE FROM THE SAME GEN-ERATION. IT'S OUR NATURE.

WELL, THERE ARE VARIOUS REASONS,

AND WHAT WE CONSIDER GOOD ACTING.

SO IS THE WAY WE APPROACH OUR ROLES,

HER ACTING IS DIFFERENT FROM MINE.

I FEEL THAT KIND OF PRES-SURE...

"YOU'RE WRONG."

"I'M RIGHT."

...FROM HER PERFOR-MANCE.

IT'S SO IRRITAT-ING!

I WAS A GENIUS CHILD ACTOR ONCE, BUT AFTER PUBERTY, THEY'VE SEEN ME AS NOTHING BUT ORDINARY.

IN FACT, I DIDN'T GET ANY WORK AT ALL.

MEANWHILE, THEY REFER TO AKANE KUROKAWA AS A GENIUS AND PRAISE HER HIGHLY NOW.

AT THIS RATE, I'LL HAVE TO ADMIT THAT SHE WAS RIGHT.

BUT DON'T WORRY.

THAT SOUNDS CHEESY, BUT YEAH.

SO SHE'S YOUR SO-CALLED FATEFUL RIVAL, EH?

WHEN IT COMES TO ACTING, I NEVER ONCE THOUGHT THAT I WAS LOSING TO HER.

HIMEKAWA-SAN, FROM YOUR POINT OF VIEW,

WHICH ONE OF THEM IS BETTER?

ARIMA OR KUROKAWA?

THEY'RE BOTH VETERANS WHO HAVE BEEN ACTING SINCE THEY WERE LITTLE,

AND BOTH OF THEM ARE GOOD. I CAN'T CHOOSE.

WHAT IF YOU HAD TO?

WELL, KUROKAWA'S ACTING IS OUT OF THIS WORLD.

I SEE WHY THEY CALL HER A GENIUS,

BUT ARIMA...

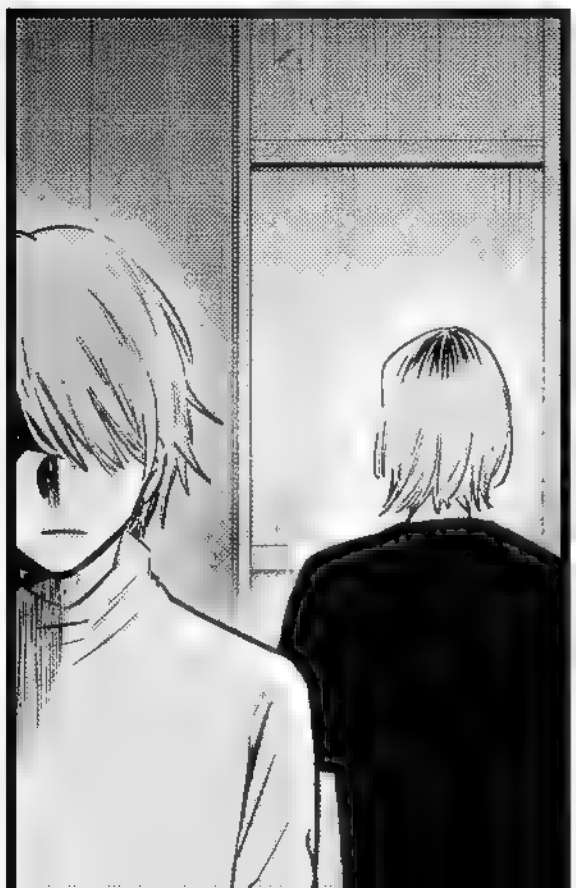
...HAS A STRONG ATTACHMENT TO ACTING ITSELF.

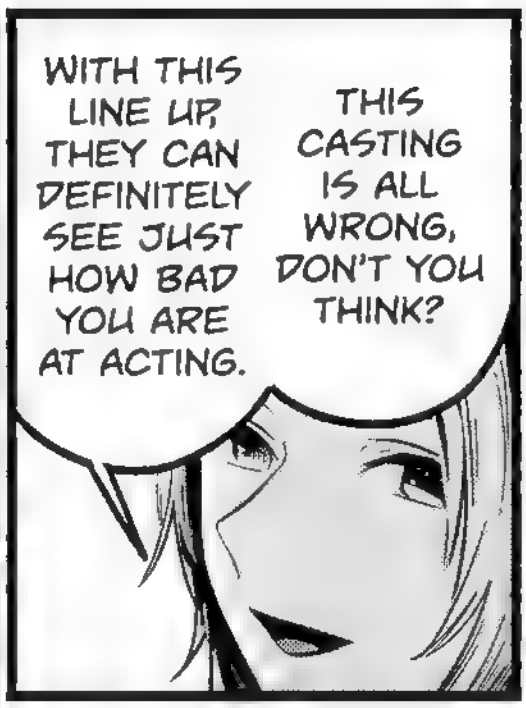
FOR NOW, IT'S ARIMA'S WIN...

BUT IT DEPENDS ON THE RESULT OF THE PLAY.

WE CAN GO EITHER WAY,

...BECAUSE I'M HERE.




WITH THIS LINE UP, THEY CAN DEFINITELY SEE JUST HOW BAD YOU ARE AT ACTING.
THIS CASTING IS ALL WRONG, DON'T YOU THINK?

HIMEKAWA-SAN SURE IS EXCEPTIONAL.

ARIMA,

WILL YOU PRACTICE WITH ME AFTER THIS?

OF COURSE.

I WAS ABOUT TO ASK YOU MYSELF.

RIGHT.

AQUA-KUN, WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME.

LET'S GO TO THE DIRECTOR'S PLACE NOW.

I'M NOT GOING TO LOSE!

AND SO THE DAYS PASSED BY.

THE MAIN EVENT IS FINALLY HERE.

STAGEARO

東京ブレイド

Sign: Tokyo Blade

CHAPTER 55
OPENING

AKA AKASAKA x
MENGO YOKOYARI

東京ブレイド

Poster: Tokyo Blade

H-H STAGEAROUND
東京ブレイド

Sign: Tokyo Blade

WHAT'S WRONG, ABIKO-SENSEI?

ビク
JOLT

Translated by Felicia Sumali
Lettered by YKS Services, LLC
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ARE YOU NERVOUS?

OF COURSE I AM.

I FORCED MY WAY TO MEDDLE IN.

IF THIS FAILED, IT'D ALL BE MY FAULT.

Book: Tokyo Blade

HOW CAN I NOT BE NERVOUS?

YOU'LL NEVER GET USED TO THIS, HUH?

WEREN'T YOU HAPPY WITH THE SCRIPT ALREADY?

YEAH, BUT...

HAVEN'T YOU BEEN REJECTED FOR WORKS YOU'RE SO CONFIDENT IN BEFORE?

I SUP-POSE...

IT'S OKAY.

...I'M THE ONLY PERSON IN THIS WORLD WHO THINKS THAT MY WORK IS FASCINATING?

WHEN I THINK OF THAT...

WHAT IF...

I'M HAPPY WITH THE QUALITY OF THAT SCRIPT, TOO.

THERE ARE AT LEAST TWO PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD...

...WHO THINK THAT IT'S FASCINATING, RIGHT?

THIS WAY,

SST

HUH?

I THOUGHT SHE WAS ALREADY USED TO ME...

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

SHE DEVOTED HER ENTIRE YOUTH TO MANGA, SO SHE'S NOT IMMUNE TO GUYS.

JUST KEEP INTERACTING WITH HER. DON'T HESITATE.

SHE ACTUALLY LIKES IT WHEN PEOPLE APPROACH HER.

HA HA HA...

WELL, THE SUCCESS OF THIS STAGE WILL DEPEND ON THE ACTORS NOW,

BUT THEY'RE ALL TALENTED.

I'M SURE IT'S GOING TO BE A GOOD PLAY.

NOT ALL OF THEM ARE.

KIZAI

TALENTED, HE SAID?

"THE OTHERS"?!

AND THE OTHERS!

YUKI-CHAN!

MEM-CHO, LONG TIME NO SEE!

HMM?

WHAT? WHAT?

IS EVERY-THING GOING WELL WITH YOU GUYS?

SO-SO, I GUESS?

THEY'RE TOTALLY THE SAME!

YOU'RE WEARING MATCHING BRACE-LETS!

WELL, THEY MAY BE CELEBRITIES, BUT THEY'RE JUST FOOLS WHEN THEY'RE IN LOVE.

WHISPER

I WONDER WHY WOMEN WHO ARE DATING ENTER-TAINERS LIKE TO WALK ON THIN ICE?

WHISPER

IT'S JUST A COINCI-DENCE! I—

NO!

THIS IS...!

EVERY-THING IS GOING SO WELL!

Whoa!
THAT GIRL IS SO CUTE.
Where? Where?
IT'S OKAY. I CAN HOLD BACK FOR NOW.
And be careful with group photos!
YOU'D BETTER NOT UPLOAD IT ON SOCIAL MEDIA...
FOR REAL?!
SHE'S AQUA'S SISTER.
I'M SURE THEY'RE EQUALLY BEAUTIFUL.
I WANNA SEE THEIR PARENTS.
THEIR GENES ARE SOMETHING, ALL RIGHT.
東京ブレイド

Book: Tokyo Blade

THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE WITH A SPECIAL AURA AROUND US.

THE BACK SEATS OF THEATERS ARE MOSTLY FOR PEOPLE INVOLVED.

IT'S EASIER TO SEE THE AUDIENCE'S REACTIONS THAT WAY.

SMUG

WHOA, I FEEL LIKE ONE OF THOSE BIG-SHOTS, AND IT FEELS GOOD.

DON'T BE PROUD NOW.

OH! IT'S THE DIRECTOR.

HE LOOKS AS SCARY AS EVER.

DID AQUA INVITE HIM?

HE MUST'VE GIVEN HIS ALL FOR THIS PLAY.

IT'S SO UNLIKE HIM TO ASK THE DIRECTOR...

...TO WATCH HIS PER-FORMANCE.

Book: Touki, Aqua Hoshino

I THINK I TAUGHT THEM ALL I COULD,

THE GIFTED KID AND AKANE.

BUT...

THE MORE HE TRIES TO PERFORM EMOTIONALLY, THE HIGHER THE RISK WILL BE.

IF HE PANICS ON STAGE, IT'LL ALL BE CURTAINS FOR HIM.

BUT HE HASN'T RECOVERED FROM HIS PSYCHOLOGI-CAL TRAUMA COMPLETELY.

WELL, I'M SURE HE'LL MANAGE.

HE'S A FULL-GROWN ACTOR, AFTER ALL.

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE THE LAST TIME I SAW AQUA TAKE ACTING SERIOUSLY?

I WAS CALLED A GENIUS ONCE,

BUT EVERYONE'S CALLING YOU THAT NOW.

IT'S FRUSTRATING, BUT I'M AWARE OF IT, TOO.

IT ALSO ANNOYS ME TO SAY THIS,

BUT I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO PERFORMING WITH YOU AGAIN.

I WON'T LET ANYONE...

I'LL DEFEAT YOU HERE.

...CALL ME A *FORMER GENIUS CHILD ACTOR* ANYMORE!

FWIP

KANA-CHAN,

I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO PERFORMING WITH YOU, TOO.

I...

...ALWAYS HAVE.

HE'S BEEN DOING IT A LOT LATELY.

MEDITATION?

MENTAL CONCENTRATION?

HMM?

IN THE PRIVATE ROOM.

HUH...? WHERE'S AQUA-KUN?

Sign: Waiting Room

控室

WELL, I GUESS EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN WAY OF COMPOSING THEMSELVES.

MOST PEOPLE WANT TO BE ALONE BEFORE THE PERFORMANCE.

Ai...
Ai...
Ai...
Ai...

!!

HAAH...

HAAH...

BUT I COULDN'T SUPPRESS THIS GUY'S FURY AT ALL.

I TRIED VARIOUS THINGS AT THE DIREC-TOR'S PLACE,

EXPOSURE THERAPY...

MENTAL CONTROL...

BUT I ALWAYS SNAP BACK TO REALITY RIGHT AFTER.

I ALWAYS WIND UP ON THE VERGE OF A PANIC ATTACK IF I SO MUCH AS LOOK AT AI'S FACE,

MY HEART IS FROZEN WITH SADNESS AND MY DESIRE FOR REVENGE.

I'M BURNING WITH ANGER AND REGRET.

AND THAT'S OKAY.

I'M FINE WITH THIS.

I'LL USE EVERYTHING I CAN...

THAT'S THE WAY I ACT.

...IN ORDER TO MAKE UP FOR MY LACK OF TALENT.

I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO TALK BIG...

...IF I CAN'T EVEN USE AN OLD WOUND OR TWO TO MY OWN ADVANTAGE.

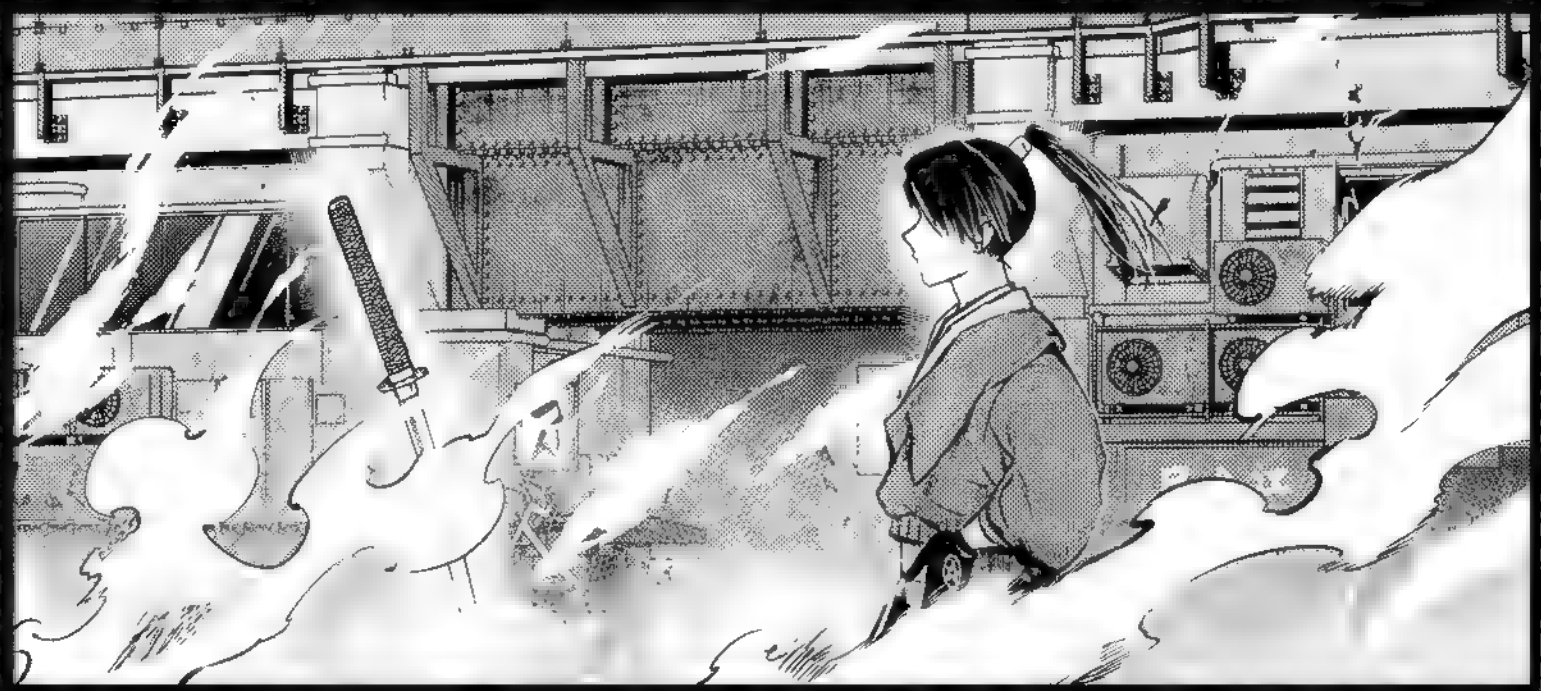
WELL,

THE CURTAIN IS RISING.

BREAK A LEG.

THE STORY OF TOKYO BLADE...

CHAPTER 56
BEGINNING OF COMPETITION



...BEGINS WHEN THE MAIN CHARACTER OBTAINS A SWORD.

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NAME'S TSURUGI-SAMA, ONE OF THE SWORD OWNERS!

EITHER YOU GIVE UP THAT "ALLIANCE SWORD" AND RUN AWAY...

...OR FIGHT ME. YOUR CHOICE!

THE 21 "ALLIANCE SWORDS" GATHERED IN THE FAR EAST...

...GIVE VARIOUS POWERS TO THEIR OWNERS.

Blade
Wind Blade Thunder

Alliance sword,
Kazemaru

I DON'T WANNA DIE JUST YET!!

STOP!

I SUR-RENDER!

YOU'RE DEFI-NITELY STRON-GER!

YES!

WELL, DO YOU ADMIT THAT I'M STRONGER NOW?

GREAT.

POWER BIG ENOUGH TO STEAL JAPAN?

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A KING.

THE "NATION STEALING" POWER, THAT IS.

THE PERSON RECOGNIZED BY THE "ALLIANCE SWORDS" TO BE THE STRONGEST...

...WILL OBTAIN POWER BIG ENOUGH TO CONQUER A NATION.

THAT'S PRETTY MUCH THE MAIN PLOT.

I'LL BE THE STRONGEST...

...AND BECOME THE KING OF THIS COUNTRY!

WHEN YOU BECOME A KING, MAKE ME YOUR MINISTER!

SOMETIMES, THOSE WHO GET DEFEATED IN BATTLES WILL DIE,

BUT MOST OF THEM END UP BEING SUBORDINATES INSTEAD.

IF YOU DO, I, TSURUGI, WILL CUT OPEN THAT ROYAL PATH FOR YOU!

DAMMIT...

YOU GUYS ARE STRONG...

HEY, LET ME JOIN YOUR GROUP!

WHEN YOU BECOME A KING,

I'LL BE YOUR GENERAL!

THE BLADE PARTY DEFEATS THEIR ENEMIES...

...AND ADDS MORE FRIENDS ALONG THE WAY.

HOW-EVER, THEY'RE NOT THE ONLY PEOPLE ...

...FORM-ING FAC-TIONS AND TAKING ACTION.

...WILL FIGHT AGAINST THE SHIBUYA FACTION, A GROUP BASED IN SHIBUYA, IN THE SECOND ACT,

THE BLADES BASED IN SHINJUKU,

THE SHINJUKU FACTION...

...WITH THE BATTLE BETWEEN THESE TWO.

AND IT ALL STARTS...

DO I HAVE TO FIGHT NO MATTER WHAT?

MY PARENTS FORCED ME TO TAKE THIS SWORD,

AND I GOT DRAGGED INTO THIS BATTLE, BUT...

NORMALLY, HE'S NOTHING BUT A CAREFREE PLAYBOY.

BUT...

HE'S A PRICELESS ACTOR IN THE WORLD OF 2.5D.

SAKUYA KAMOSHIDA.

HIS ACTING IS QUITE SOME-THING.

I DON'T REALLY WANT TO FIGHT...

BUT HE'S ABLE TO REENACT THE ORIGINAL PERFECTLY,

AND HIS ACTING ABILITY IS MORE THAN ENOUGH.

THE CHARACTER HE'S PLAYING IS THE EXACT OPPOSITE OF HIS PERSONALITY.

Book: Tokyo Blade

DAMMIT.

HE'S A GOOD ACTOR.

THANKS FOR INTRODUCING KAMOSHIDA-KUN. YOU WERE SUCH A GREAT HELP.

I'M GLAD YOU LIKE HIM.

SINCE YOU WERE USING LALA LAI,

I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO MAKE A STAGE THAT WASN'T BOUND BY THE 2.5D RULES.

OBVIOUSLY, I WAS AIMING FOR THAT, TOO.

I WANT OUR NEW CUSTOMERS TO BECOME FANS OF THE THEATER ITSELF,

NOT JUST THE 2.5D PLAY.

THAT'S WHY...

I THOUGHT I COULD KEEP THE EXISTING RULES...

...WHILE BREAKING THEM A BIT TO GIVE IT A LITTLE MORE FLAVOR.

I CAN'T THINK OF A BETTER EXAMPLE THAN HIM.
HE KNOWS EXACTLY HOW TO TRANSFORM TWO-DIMENSIONAL CHARACTERS INTO LIFE.
EVEN IN THE WORLD OF 2.5D, HIS RESPECT FOR THE ORIGINAL WORK IS VERY HIGH.
東京ブレイド

Book: Tokyo Blade

THEY ABSORBED EVERYTHING ABOUT 2.5D PLAYS LIKE A SPONGE.
EVERYONE AT LALA LAI SOON REALIZED THAT THERE WAS SO MUCH TO LEARN FROM HIM.

I KNEW YOUR CASTING WAS TRUST-WORTHY, BUT...

ARIMA-KUN AND AQUA-KUN ARE QUITE TALENTED AS WELL.

AS A MEDIATOR, I FEEL SO REWARDED.

I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT.

...THAT LEFT ME PUZZLED.

HE'S THE ONLY ONE...

HE'S NOT THAT FAMOUS,

AND HIS ACTING ABILITY IS FAR FROM THAT OF VETERANS.

I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF HE COULD GET A PASSING MARK.

YOU MUST'VE FORCED YOUR WAY INTO CASTING HIM, HUH?

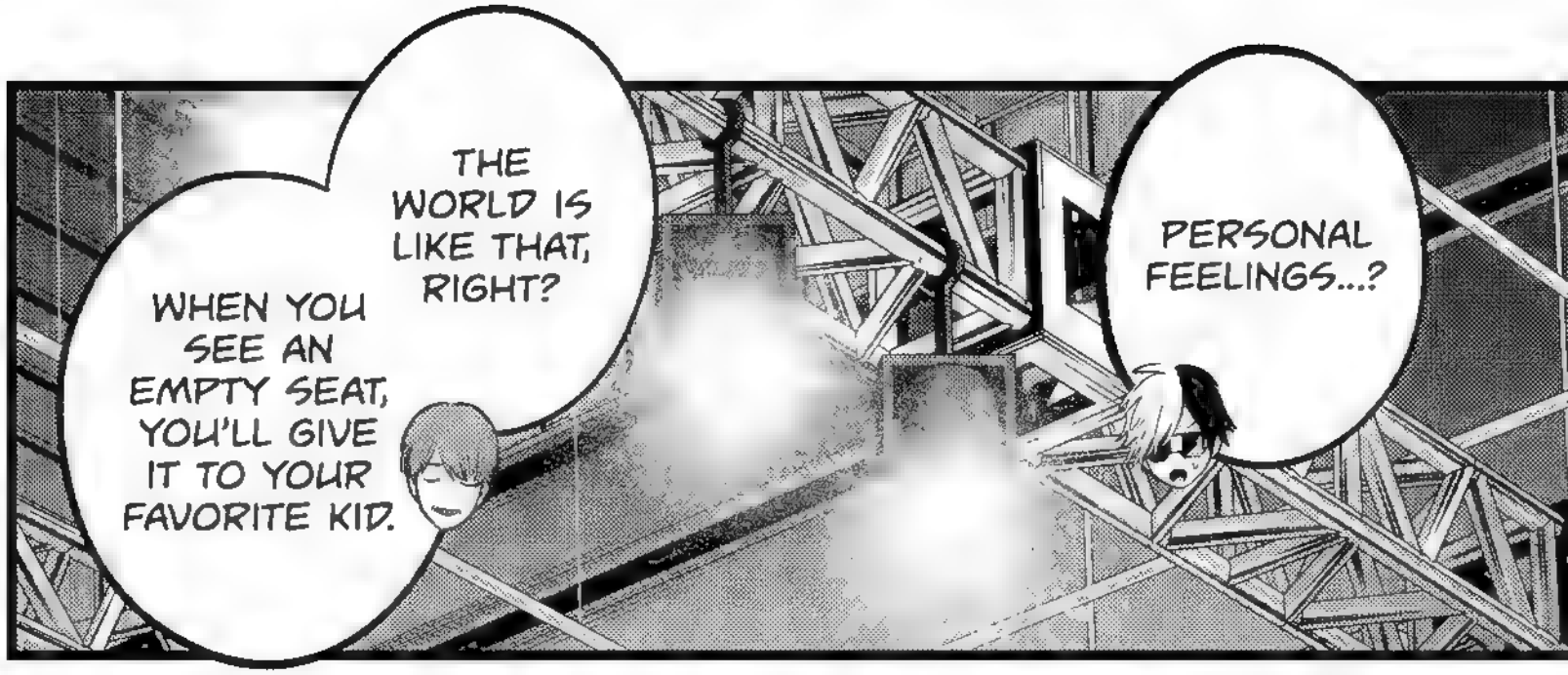
HONESTLY, WHEN I WATCHED HIS PERFORMANCE IN *SWEET TODAY*, I THOUGHT HE WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION.

WHY WOULD YOU DO THAT?

DOES HE HAVE A SPECIAL TALENT OR SOME-THING?

NOT REALLY.

IT'S JUST PERSONAL FEELINGS.


THE WORLD IS LIKE THAT, RIGHT?
WHEN YOU SEE AN EMPTY SEAT, YOU'LL GIVE IT TO YOUR FAVORITE KID.
PERSONAL FEELINGS...?

DON'T USE OTHER PEOPLE'S STAGE AS YOUR REHEARSAL VENUE, PLEASE.
HE CAN TAKE HIS TIME TO GET BETTER AT ACTING.
HE LOOKS GOOD, AND HE HAS A BEAUTIFUL VOICE.
NO, SERIOUSLY. I CHOSE HIM BECAUSE I THOUGHT YOU'D LIKE HIM TOO.
I KNOW VERY WELL...

殺陣用木刀

Sign: Stage combat wooden swords

...HOW MUCH YOU APPRECIATE HARD-WORK ERS.

メルト

Tag: Melt

I WON'T LOOOSE!!

SEE?

HE'S NOT THE SAME ACTOR WHO STARRED IN *SWEET TODAY*.

HE MUST'VE BEEN DESPERATE TRYING TO POLISH HIS ACTING.

THAT'S THE KIND OF ACTOR...

...WHO'LL LEAVE THE MARK.

WAS THIS CASTING A MISTAKE OR NOT?

SHE'LL BE THE JUDGE OF THAT.

AFTER ALL, WE HAVE THE TOUGHEST CRITIC WHO'LL OBSERVE HIS PERFORMANCE THOROUGHLY HERE.

【推しの子】

WHEN I ENTERED MIDDLE SCHOOL,

CHAPTER 57
LOUSY

I WAS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF BY A THIRD-YEAR RIGHT OFF THE BAT.

I KNEW I WAS POPULAR THEN.

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AND IF I LIKED A GIRL, SHE WOULD CONFESS HER FEELINGS TO ME FIRST.

EVEN WHEN I DIDN'T SAY A WORD, PEOPLE WOULD STILL APPROACH ME,

I THOUGHT PEOPLE FOUND ME FUNNY WHEN I WAS BULLYING OTHER PEOPLE.

ON TOP OF THAT, THEY WOULD LAUGH WHEN I MADE FUN OF PEOPLE WHO LOOKED FUNNY.

IN GENERAL, THINGS WENT WELL...

...EVEN WITHOUT ME PUTTING EFFORT INTO THEM.

SONIC STAGE?!

COOL! THEY'RE A BIG COMPANY, RIGHT?

ニックステー

マネージメン

村島 達矢

Murashima Tatsuya

XXX XXXX

Card:
Sonic Stage
Management
Tatsuya Murashima

WHAT? YOU'RE GOING TO BE AN ENTERTAIN-ER?

WELL, IF IT'S YOU, I'M SURE YOU CAN DO IT!

YOU COULD EVEN DATE FRILL SHIRANUI IN NO TIME!

EVERYONE HAS HIGH HOPES FOR ME,

I DON'T HAVE MONEY,

AND PART-TIME JOBS ARE A PAIN IN THE NECK.

WELL, GUESS I'LL GIVE IT A SHOT.

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT...

IN THE ORIGINAL, WHEN KIZAMI AND MONME WERE FIGHTING EACH OTHER,

KIZAMI SEEMED TO BE THE MORE POWERFUL ONE,

BUT...

HIS PERFORMANCE DOESN'T MAKE ME FEEL THAT WAY AT ALL.

WHY DID THEY HIRE SOMEONE...

...WHO IS SUCH A LOUSY ACTOR...

...FOR A PRODUCTION THAT PEOPLE HAVE POURED THEIR HEART AND SOUL INTO?

SO ANNOYING!

GRIT

DO I HAVE TO MATCH HIS PERFORMANCE INSTEAD...?

GOOD GRIEF!

HIS ACTING IS ONLY SLIGHTLY BETTER THAN AMATEURS.

HE DOESN'T EVEN WORK FOR IT!

THE ONLY REASON HE GETS ACTING JOBS IS BECAUSE OF HIS LOOKS. HE'S A LOUSY ACTOR!

HE SHOULD JUST DISAPPEAR!

I KNOW I'M INCOMPE-TENT.

I KNOW THAT.

EVER SINCE I SAW THAT PERFOR-MANCE.

...AND THAT I RUINED OTHER PEOPLE'S WORK.

I ALSO KNOW THAT THE PEOPLE AROUND ME HAD TO COME DOWN TO MY LEVEL...

WAS MY ACTING...

...REALLY THIS BAD?

DO YOU ENJOY MAKING THAT FACE?

WAS IT NOT A MISTAKE?

IF I HAD GIVEN MY ALL FROM THE START,

THIS DRAMA WOULD'VE BEEN...

...MUCH BETTER.

...THAT ACTORS NEED STAMINA BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE.

MY INSTRUCTOR SAID...

YOU'VE GOT MORE STAMINA THAN I THOUGHT.

WHAT A SUR-PRISE.

...SINCE WE FINISHED SHOOTING SWEET TODAY.

THAT'S WHY I'VE BEEN RUNNING EVERY DAY...

HMM.

-THAT WAS SOME BIG ACTION SCENE,

BUT HE'S NOT RUNNING OUT OF BREATH.

PANT

PANT

PANT

BUT LOOK AT THEIR REACTIONS.

HE MUST'VE TAKEN REHEARSALS MORE SERIOUSLY THAN I THOUGHT.

THE GUY WHO'S PLAYING KIZAMI IS KINDA...

RIGHT?

HE'S NOT VERY...

EVEN THE AUDIENCE THINKS THAT YOU'RE BAD.

SO WHAT IF THEY THINK YOU'RE BAD?

IT'S OKAY, RIGHT?

HUH...?

IF MY POOR ACTING RUINS ANOTHER SHOW...

WHAT KIND OF ADVICE IS THAT?!

DON'T YOU HAVE SOME-THING BETTER TO SAY?

I DIDN'T MEAN TO ACT COLDLY.

MY POINT IS, YOU SHOULD MAKE GOOD USE OF YOUR LOUSI-NESS.

HUH?

I COULD NEVER DO THAT...

IT'S POSSI-BLE.

YOUR BIGGEST SCENE IS WHEN YOU FIGHT MONME.

HOW YOU WANT TO USE THE ONE MONTH OF REHEARSALS IS UP TO YOU,

BUT TRYING TO IMPROVE THE WHOLE THING IS JUST GOING TO WASTE YOUR TIME.

WHY DON'T YOU FOCUS ON ONE THING AND POUR YOUR HEART INTO IT?

THIS IS THE BASIS OF ENTERTAINMENT, SO REMEMBER IT WELL.

THEY'RE LETTING THEIR GUARDS DOWN.

WHEN THE AUDIENCE IS MAKING FUN OF YOU,

WHAT IF A STUDENT WHO GETS BULLIED IN YOUR CLASS...

...OR A PLAIN, HIDDEN GLASSES GIRL...

GOOD-FOR-NOTHING GEEK...

SPIN

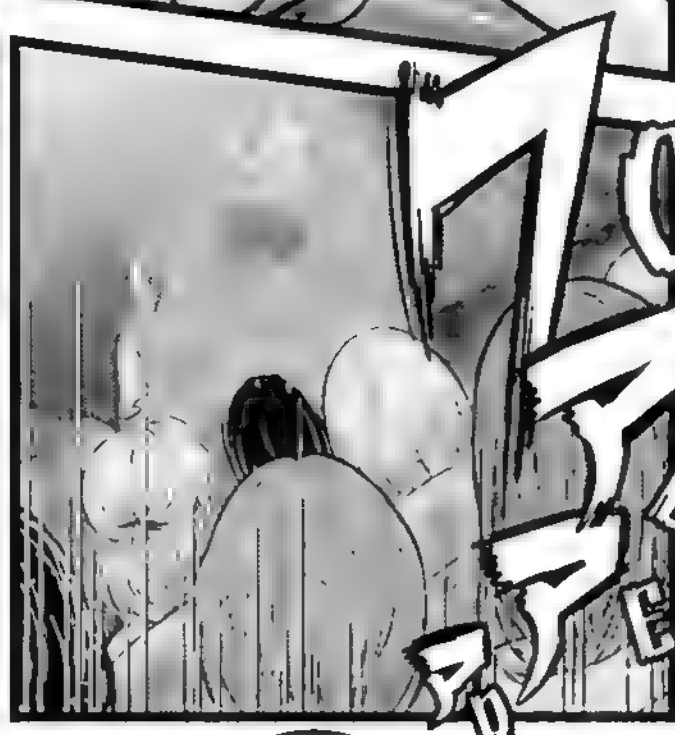
IL

...SUDDENLY STARTS DOING SOMETHING AMAZING?

...OR A SUPER LOUSY ACTOR...

IT'D BE SUPER HOT, RIGHT?

AHHHHH!



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いぬやしき

THAT WAS AMAZING!

BUT HE DID...!

I DIDN'T DRAW THE SCENE THINKING THAT SOMEONE COULD ACTUALLY PULL IT OFF,

IT'S LIKE A REENACT-MENT OF THE ORIGINAL. IT'S SO COOL!

I JUST TOLD HIM THAT NO MATTER HOW BAD HIS ACTING WAS, HE COULD STILL TURN HIS WEAKNESS INTO A WEAPON.

THE REST WAS HIS OWN EFFORTS.

DID YOU PUT THAT IDEA INTO HIS HEAD?

NOT REALLY.

EVERYONE LOVES BIG DIFFERENCES.

殺陣用木刀

Sign: Stage combat wooden swords

HUMAN EMOTIONS ARE SURPRISINGLY FRAGILE.

WHEN SOMETHING UNEXPECTED HAPPENS, THAT'S WHEN THEY REALLY START PAYING ATTENTION. IT'S INSTINCTUAL.

FROM THIS POINT ON, THE AUDIENCE WILL TAKE HIS ACTING INTO CONSIDERATION ***A LOT MORE.***

NOW IS THE TIME TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

...

HE'S LEARNED SOME WEIRD STREET PERFORM-ING.

THAT'S OFF THE POINT.

THE AUDIENCE IS HERE FOR OUR ACTING!

IF YOU CAN'T DELIVER THAT, THEN IT ALL MEANS NOTH-ING!

THE FIRST TIME I ENCOUN-TERED A STRONG ENEMY, I WAS DEFEATED...

...AND NOW IN THIS SCENE, I'M FACING MY OPPO-NENT WITH ONLY MY GUTS.

MY SHOW-OFF SCENE.

!

KIZAMI.

WHY DON'T YOU OBSERVE THE OTHERS A LITTLE MORE AND LEARN FROM THEM?

I'VE BEEN TAKING LESSONS FOR THE PAST SIX MONTHS,

BUT THE ACTORS HERE ARE STILL ON A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT LEVEL.

...

NOT ONLY DO THEY UNDERSTAND THEIR CHARACTER'S FEELINGS,

BUT THEY ALSO EXPRESS THOSE EMOTIONS AS IF IT'S SOMETHING NATURAL.

YOU CAN'T DO THAT IF YOU JUST SIMPLY READ THE SCRIPT.

WHAT DOES TOUKI THINK OF PRINCESS SAYA?

Script: Tokyo Blade

ADORATION?

DEEP AFFECTION?

SOMETHING MORE COMPLICATED...?

YOU'RE EVEN CONSIDERING OTHER CHARACTERS?

THIS IS IMPORTANT!

WHAT KIND OF FEELINGS THE OTHER CHARACTERS HAVE TOWARD HER IS GOING TO INFLUENCE HER CHARACTER BUILDING!

I'M AN IDIOT.

I CAN'T STUDY MY CHARACTER THE WAY KUROKAWA DOES.

THIS CHARAC-TER NAMED KIZAMI...

WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS HE?

I CAN BARELY UNDER-STAND HIM.

YOU LOOKED DOWN ON YOUR OPPO-NENT, BUT YOU WERE DEFEATED BY HIM.

YOU MADE EVERY POSSIBLE EFFORT, BUT YOU STILL LOST TO HIM.

LAME.

WHAT KIND OF PERSON ARE YOU?

WHY...

...ARE YOU MAKING SUCH A MISERABLE FACE...

OH...

...LIKE ME?

I SEE.

YOU'RE FRUSTRAT-ED.

IT'S JUST LIKE YOU TO THINK THAT WAY!

BUT YOU REALIZED THAT YOU'RE ACTUALLY VERY WEAK.

YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE STRONG,

AND FRUS-TRATED.

PITIFUL,

YOU'RE PATHETIC,

IF THAT'S THE CASE,

I CAN TOTALLY RELATE.

東京ブレイド

Book: Tokyo Blade

THIS GUY...

...IS FILLED WITH EMO-TIONS!!

HIS FEELING OF FRUSTRA-TION...

WAAAAAAN!!

FROM HIS EYES...

...TO HIS FINGER-TIPS...

...IS SO STRONG THAT IT'S REACHED THE AUDIENCE!

WAAAAAAN!!

...TO ANYONE!

I WON'T LOSE...

I USED MOST OF THE REHEARSAL PERIOD TO DELVE INTO THIS FEELING...

WHO CARES THAT YOU'VE BEEN ACTING FOR TEN YEARS?

...AND FOR THE PAST MONTH, I POURED MY HEART INTO PERFECTING THIS ONE MINUTE SCENE.

テスト

Sword: Melt

FOR JUST THIS ONE MINUTE...

I WON'T LOSE TO ANYONE!!

SEE?

MY CASTING WASN'T A MISTAKE, AFTER ALL.

TMP

WELL DONE.

JUST LEAVE THE REST TO US!

Here's your towel.

GRAB

YOU DID IT!

THAT WAS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT FROM REHEARSALS!

WHAT?

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

YOUR ACTING WAS PLEASANTLY EMOTIONAL.

I FINALLY UNDERSTOOD THE MEANING OF YOUR WORDS BACK THEN.

"WHEN IT COMES TO ACTING, NOTHING BEATS EMOTIONS, AFTER ALL."

THIS IS FUN!

...

I SEE.

CHAPTER 59
ADMIRATION

HOW DARE YOU HURT OUR FRIEND!

I'LL PAY YOU BACK A TRILLION TIMES MORE!

IF YOU INVADE US ANY FURTHER, OUR FACTION SHIBUYA WILL—

WHOOSH

TSK! THE SOUND EFFECT OVERLAPPED WITH MY LINE.

SHOULD I SAY IT AGAIN?

Translated by Felicia Sumali
Lettered by YKS Services, LLC
Edited by Jordan Reynolds
MEDIA DO Co. Ltd. / YKS Services LLC / SKY Japan, INC.

SPIN

SPIN

DO I HAVE TO TURN YOU INTO A LUMP OF MEAT JUST TO SHUT YOUR YAP?!

OH, PLEASE. STOP COMPLAINING!

!

AN AD-LIB!

THIS GIRL...

I'LL KILL EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM AND TAKE OVER THIS COUNTRY...

I DON'T GIVE A DAMN ABOUT THE SHIBUYA FACTION!

...WITH THIS SWORD!

...IS OVERWHELMINGLY GOOD AT IMPROVISING!

HER PAUSE WAS ALSO AS NATURAL AS IF SHE HAD PLANNED IT FROM THE BEGINNING.

BUT SHE ALSO SAID IT IN A WAY THAT THE ORIGINAL TSURUGI WOULD.

NOT ONLY WAS SHE ABLE TO INTRODUCE THE NAME OF THE "SHIBUYA FACTION" THAT THE AUDIENCE FAILED TO HEAR DUE TO THE SOUND EFFECT,

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE PERFORMED WITH SOMEONE SO EASY TO ACT WITH.

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, YOU'LL FEEL SAFE BECAUSE YOU KNOW THAT THEY CAN FIX IT.

EXPERIENCED ACTORS WHO HAVE BEEN ACTING FOR A LONG TIME ARE SURELY ON A DIFFERENT LEVEL, EH?

TARTAR CHICKEN!

HEY!

DON'T RUN AWAY, YOU DIMWIT!

I'M FIGHTING THE TWO OF YOU. THE ODDS ARE AGAINST ME HERE.

I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN NEXT TIME.

SOUNDS LIKE A BUNCH OF TROUBLE-SOME GUYS TO ME.

THE SHINJUKU FACTION, EH?

THEY'RE COMING TO ATTACK US.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO NOW?

AS LONG AS THEY CAN KILL US, THEY'LL BE SATISFIED.

THOSE IDIOTS ARE ALL BRAWN AND NO BRAIN.

CAN'T YOU BE A LITTLE MORE HUMANE?

IT WAS A MISTAKE TO ASK YOU FOR YOUR OPINION.

I JUST FOLLOW HER ORDERS.

I'M THE PRIN-CESS'S CONFI-DANT.

PRIN-
CESS
SAYA...

PLEASE
MAKE YOUR
DECISION.

PRINCESS
SAYA'S
LONG NAR-
RATION HAS
BEEN CUT
SHORT...

...SO THE
ACTRESS CAN
EXPRESS THE
CONFRONTA-
TION IN THIS
SCENE WITH
ONLY HER
MOVEMENTS...

THIS IS
PART OF
THE
SCRIPT
THAT GOT
CHANGED
THE MOST.

IF WE
DRAW OUR
SWORDS,

BLOOD
WILL BE
SHED.

YOU CAN FEEL HER CONFLICTED EMOTIONS AS PART OF HER HUMAN NATURE...

EVEN THOUGH SHE STAYS SEATED,

...AND SHOW THAT SHE'S THE LEADER WITH HER SOLID ACTING.

...AND IT DOESN'T SEEM FORCED AT ALL.

BUT YOU CAN ACTUALLY FIGURE OUT WHAT'S GOING ON JUST BY WATCHING HER PERFORMANCE.

YOU'D THINK THAT YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THE SCENE WITHOUT PRINCESS SAYA'S NARRATION.

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN WE NEED TO FIGHT IN ORDER TO PROTECT.

HOWEVER,

ALL THE CONTRADIC-TIONS IN THE PREVIOUS SCRIPT HAVE BEEN CLEARED NOW...!

HER ACTING IS VERY CONVINC-ING...!

SHE'S AMAZ-ING!

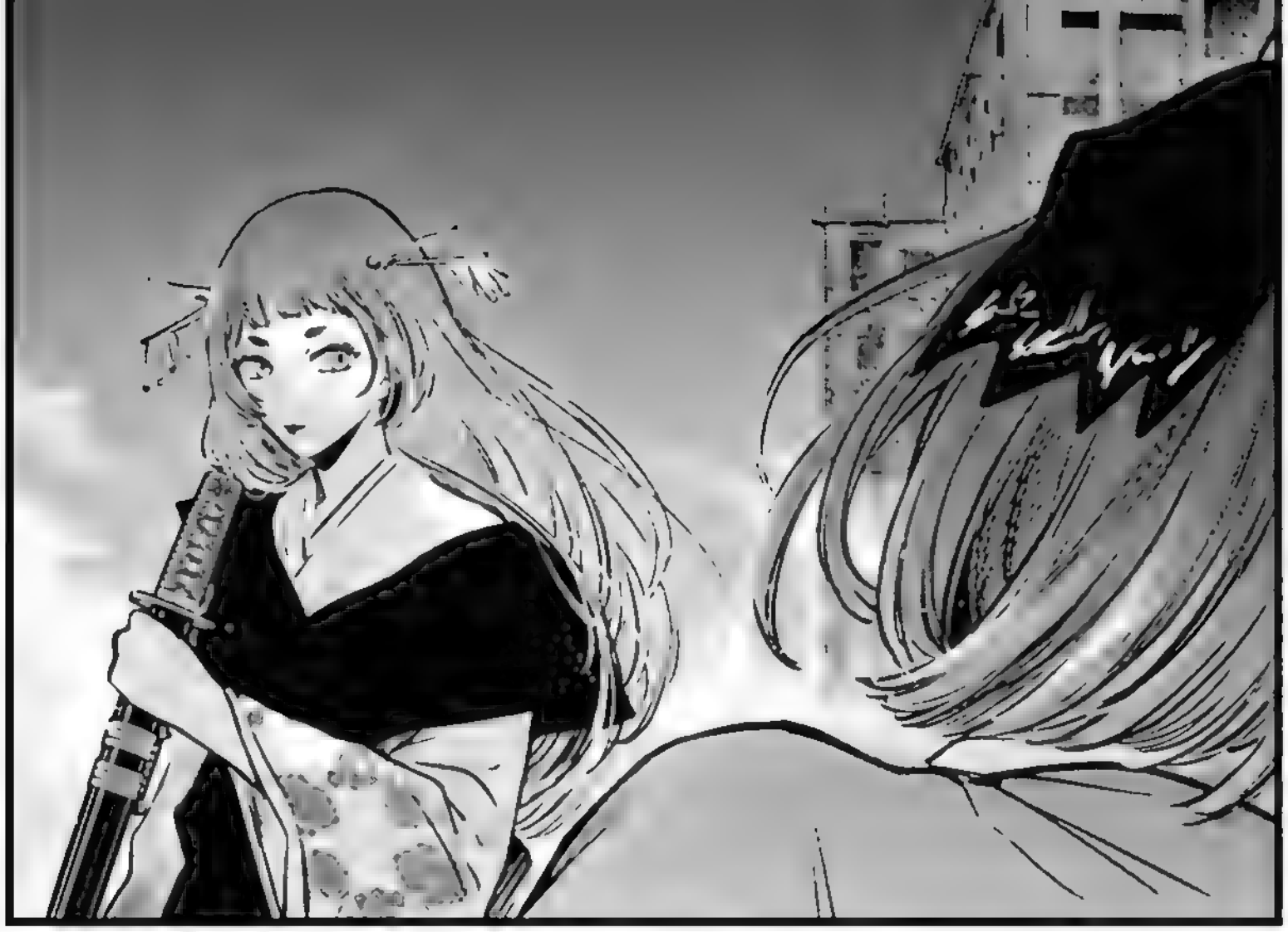
WITH THAT SAID, LET US DRAW OUR SWORDS...

...AND FIGHT.

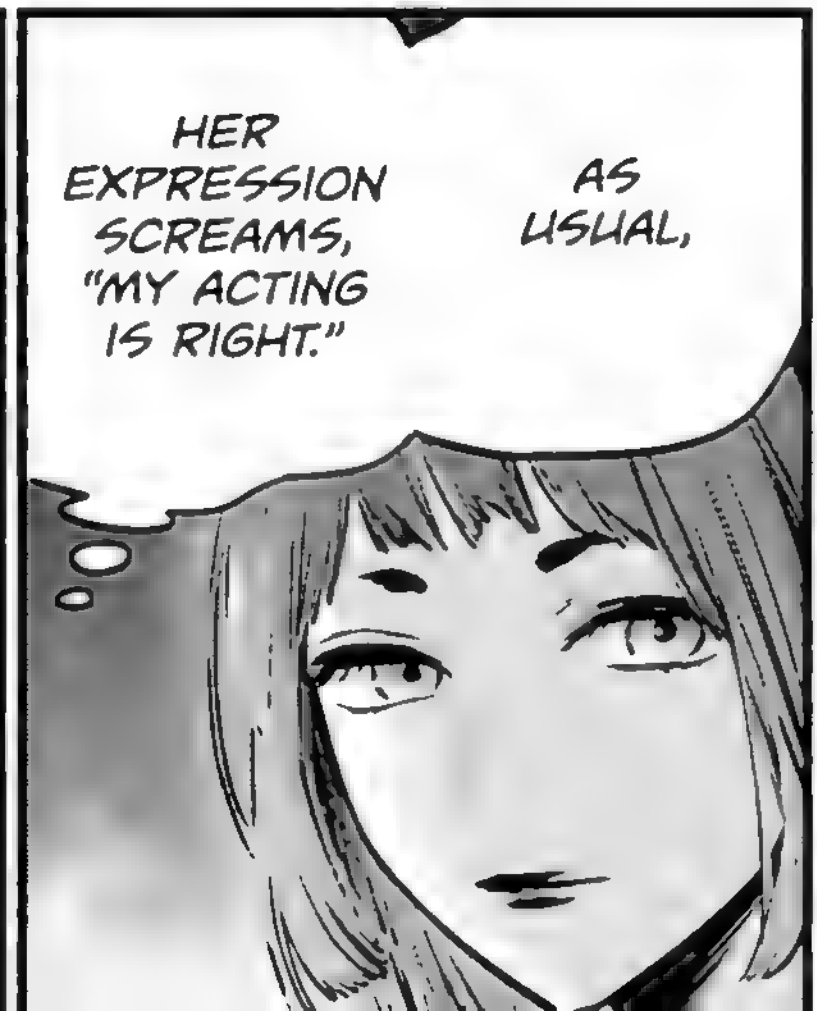
TRRR

SHINJUKU VS. SHIBUYA.

THE CLIMACTIC SCENE.



WHAT MAKES HER SO DIS-PLEASED?
DRAW YOUR SWORD, NOW!


AS USUAL,
HER EXPRESSION SCREAMS, "MY ACTING IS RIGHT."

THIS IS...

...ALL I NEED TO FIGHT YOU.

ARE YOU...

...LOOKING DOWN ON ME?!

I WON'T LOSE, KANA-CHAN.

I'M HERE BECAUSE OF YOU.

I DON'T THINK YOU REMEMBER THE OLD DAYS...

...FOR YEARS,

BUT...

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS VERY MOMENT!

Box: Meidai Dairy Industry

YOU REALLY LIKE KANA-CHAN, DON'T YOU?

PLEASE REWIND, MAMA!

REWIND!

SHE'S AMAZING.

SHE'S A GENIUS CHILD ACTOR WHO CAN CRY ON THE SPOT...!

YUP!

SHE ALSO SPEAKS CLEARLY, EVEN WITH ADULTS.

SHE'S CUTE, AND SHE'S GOOD AT ACTING.

SHE'S...

...AWE-SOME!

HERE YOU GO.

HUH...?

WHAT...?

WELL,

OH, MY. THAT'S A GREAT IDEA.

WHY DON'T YOU START ACTING, TOO?

劇団あじさい

JUST THE OTHER DAY, I GOT A PAMPHLET FOR A CHILDREN'S TROUPE.

Pamphlet: Hydrangea Troupe

I—

I CAN'T DO IT.

I'M...

...SHY...

...AND TIMID.

I CAN'T DO ANY-THING...

FIDGET

FIDGET

FIDGET

BUT ACTING MIGHT CURE THAT INTRO-VERTED SIDE OF YOU.

I AGREE.

Book: Kana Arima

YOU MIGHT EVEN BECOME FRIENDS WITH KANA-CHAN.

WHAT...?

有馬かな

劇団あじさい

Pamphlet: Hydrangea Troupe

IF I BECAME FRIENDS WITH KANA-CHAN, I COULD DIE HAPPY.

Sign: Hydrangea Troupe

劇団あじさい

I WANTED TO BE LIKE KANA-CHAN...

...SO I WORKED HARD FOR IT.

Script: A Fire and Pochi

IN ORDER TO GET CLOSE TO HER.

THAT WAS MY ONLY GOAL.

Sign: Audition Venue

I REALLY LOVED HER...

...UNTIL THAT DAY...

...WHEN I MET HER FOR THE FIRST TIME.

赤坂アカ スペシャル描き下ろし

アンタ達も
勉強しなきゃ
駄目よ
なんなら私が
勉強教えて
あげても……
東京医大卒
偏差値70超
いずれな

なんの
話してるの？
名門中学
お受験組
黒川あかね
偏差値78

おわり

【推しの子】
5巻

赤坂アカ
横槍メンゴ
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背表紙・カバー折り返し

※表記はコミックス発売当時のものになります。

本体・表紙」

※表記はコミックス発売当時のものになります。

本体・裏表紙」

※表記はコミックス発売当時のものになります。

【推しの子】
AKA AKASAKA x
MENGO YOKOYARI

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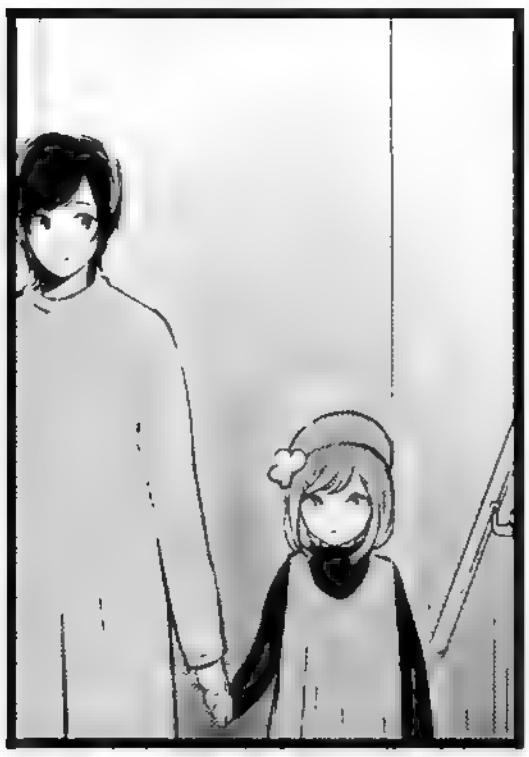

Sign: Audition Venue

THAT HAT IS...

Ngh...

TREMBLE

TREMBLE

BEEP

100%

100%

CLANK

Text: Cold

OH! THANKS...

GIMME THAT.

I'M NOT KANA-CHAN...

DON'T WORRY.

OH!

UM...

KANA-CHAN, ARE YOU NERVOUS?

THIS AUDITION IS JUST A FORMALITY.

WE'VE ALREADY DECIDED ON YOU.

SO RELAX, KANA-CHAN...

WHAT...?

ARE YOU TALKING TO ME?

HUH...?

CRAP...

UM...

I'M YOUR FAN, KANA-CHAN...

KANA-CHAN...

IN THE FLESH...

HMM?

UM...

HA HA HA.

SO IT SEEMS.

PULL

THAT MAN WAS SAYING SOMETHING WEIRD.

HE SAID...

...THAT THEY HAD DECIDED ON YOU FOR THIS AUDITION.

HMM.

IT MUST'VE BEEN SOME KIND OF MISTAKE, RIGHT?

YOU'D NEVER CHEAT...

WHAT IF I DID?

FOR APPEARANCE'S SAKE, THEY CALL IT AUDITION TO SHOW THEIR DIGNITY,

BUT IN REALITY, THEY'VE DECIDED ON ME FROM THE BEGINNING.

...

IF YOU DON'T KNOW, I'LL TELL YOU.

THIS KIND OF THING IS CALLED A *FIXED GAME.*

OF COURSE I AM.

I'LL GET A JOB THAT WAY.

KANA-CHAN...

ARE YOU OKAY WITH THAT?

YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND, DO YOU?

HOW CAN THEY PICK A CANDI-DATE BEFORE THEY EVEN SEE THE REST?

AUDITIONS ARE SUP-POSED TO CHOOSE SOMEONE WHO CAN PERFORM WELL, RIGHT?

THAT'S WHY IT'S COMMON FOR THEM TO USE SOMEONE POPULAR LIKE ME!

THE POINT IS WHETHER OR NOT THEY CAN MAKE MONEY OUT OF IT!

ANYONE CAN PLAY A MINOR ROLE LIKE THIS AS LONG AS THEIR ACTING IS DECENT ENOUGH!

THEY CAN GET BETTER RATINGS...

...BY USING A FAMOUS CHILD ACTOR RATHER THAN A TALENTED ONE!

IT'S A BETTER OPTION, DON'T YOU THINK?

Poster: Child actor audition

WHO CARES ABOUT ACTING, ANYWAY?!

NO.

THAT'S NOT TRUE.

HOW CAN YOU NOT CARE ABOUT ACTING?

AFTER ALL, YOU—

STOP SAYING THINGS LIKE YOU KNOW ME...

THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU REALLY THINK, RIGHT?

WHAT'S WITH THAT HAT?

IT MAKES YOU LOOK LIKE AN IDIOT.

I HATE PEOPLE LIKE YOU THE MOST.

WHY?

STOP IMITATING ME.

WHY DID SHE SAY SUCH THINGS?

WHY?

Book: 19th Century Poetry

Psychological methods that can be used in daily life

Gentle Behavior Psychology

A guide to understanding a person's heart

An introduction to psychology for children

Best Seller

Boyhood Psychology

...SO I STUDIED A LOT.

I DIDN'T UNDER-STAND...

I CAN UNDERSTAND AT LEAST A LITTLE...

BUT NOW,

..BIT OF YOUR REASON-ING.

BECAUSE YOU WERE SCARED, RIGHT?

YOU STARTED TO MAKE MORE MONEY BY SINGING, ETC...

YOU WERE GETTING LESS AND LESS WORK,

...AND ADULTS PRAISED YOU FOR IT.

YOU WANTED TO BE NEEDED.

YOU WANTED THEM TO LOOK AT YOU.

I WISH I COULD BE THE ONE THAT ILLUMI-NATES THE STARS.

STARS CAN'T SHINE ALONE.

AND LIVING TOGETHER WITH EVERY-ONE, RIGHT?

DOING WHAT THEY WANT YOU TO DO,

SYNCHRO-NIZING WITH THEM,

YOU THOUGHT OF KEEPING STEP WITH YOUR SUR-ROUNDINGS,

THAT WON'T DO.

...YOUR ACTING.

THAT'S NOT...

KANA-CHAN, THE ACTOR I LOVED...

...WAS MORE SELFISH AND OVERWHELM=ING.

IT WAS SOMETHING THAT SHONE BRIGHTLY LIKE THE SUN.

HER ACTING WAS NOT SOMETHING THAT ILLUMI-NATED THE STARS.

...THE PRESENT KANA-CHAN.

I HATE HER SO MUCH.

I HATE...

THEY ASKED YOU TO MATCH EVERYONE'S PACE.

YOU'VE BEEN CRUSHED BY THE ADULTS AROUND YOU, RIGHT?

AND AMAZING.

COOL,

...MORE SELFISH,

YOUR ACTING SHOULD BE...

DON'T MATCH THEIR PACE.

THE KIND OF ACTING THAT DEVOURS EVERYONE AROUND YOU.

MAKE THEM MATCH YOURS INSTEAD.

EVEN I CAN DO A LITTLE OF IT NOW.

WATCH.

THE KIND OF ACTING THAT DEVOURS EVERYONE AROUND ME, THAT IS.

Presented by

赤坂アカ × 横槍メンゴ

【推しの子】

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Next Vol.7

2022.02.18 Fri.

発売予定。